

August 9, 2006

MEMORANDUM TO: James W. Andersen, Chief/**RA**/
Performance Assessment Branch
Division of Inspection and Regional Support
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Mark E. Tonacci, Reactor Operations Engineer
Performance Assessment Branch
Division of Inspection and Regional Support

SUBJECT: PUBLIC MEETING SUMMARY ON THE REACTOR OVERSIGHT
PROCESS HELD ON JULY 19, 2006

On July 19, 2006, the staff hosted the monthly Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) working group public meeting. The attendance list for the meeting is contained in Attachment 1. The agenda for the meeting is contained in Attachment 2.

The participants discussed safety culture transition and implementation issues. The staff noted that the safety culture Regulatory Issue Summary will likely be issued at the end of the month or early in August. As agreed to in the June ROP meeting, the staff stated that the key safety culture implementing inspection procedures are available on the public web site, along with resolution of industry comments. The staff noted that inspection procedure 95003 "Supplemental Inspection For Repetitive Degraded Cornerstone, Multiple Degraded Cornerstone, Multiple Yellow Inputs, Or One Red Input" will be issued in the late September to early October time frame. NEI stressed their concern for uniform safety culture implementation throughout the regions. As an example, the industry expressed concern that there could be inconsistencies in tagging inspection findings with cross-cutting aspects during this period of transition. With respect to achieving consistent safety culture inspection implementation, the staff noted that (1) it will be reviewing implementation consistency at mid- and end-of-cycle internal assessments, (2) a safety culture working group is being formed to address internal implementation questions, (3) the procedure feedback process and survey forms are being used to gather lessons learned, and (4) prior to documenting a finding that involves a cross-cutting aspect in the safety conscious working environment area, an internal management panel must concur. The staff noted that it plans to attend all four regional utility group meetings to discuss the safety culture guidance once dates are finalized. The staff agreed to consider how to reconcile differences between the licensee and NRC cross-cutting aspect identification, the lack of an appeal process for substantive cross-cutting issues, if licensees should be informed if the staff has revised a previously dispositioned inspection finding tagged with a cross-cutting aspect after the exit meeting.

Mitigating Systems Performance Index (MSPI) implementation and guidance interpretation issues were also discussed. Industry representatives stated that at present the number of greater-than-green MSPI performance indicators appears to be in the 8-10 range. The staff

noted a concern that the NEI web board for MSPI can be used to circumvent the frequently asked question (FAQ) process to address issues. NEI committed to present a transition plan at the next meeting to ensure the use of the web board is appropriate and does not supplant the FAQ process. On a related topic, the staff agreed to develop a definition of planned versus unplanned unavailability for inclusion in the MSPI guidance document.

During the June 2006 monthly ROP meeting, NEI requested that licensees be able to make mid-quarter MSPI risk coefficient value changes affecting the second quarter data. At the time, the staff agreed to the request, but asked that NEI compile a list of licensees making the changes and a description of the changes for the staff's review. The staff desired to understand the changes and the intent of industry in making such changes. The staff stated that this list of licensee changes will be considered by the NRC in implementing follow-up inspections. As noted above, NEI did agree to compile this list but it was not available for the July meeting. NEI stated that they were aware of approximately a dozen licensees that made probabilistic risk assessment (PRA) model changes to correct errors.

The timeliness for updating the INPO consolidated data entry (CDE) software for MSPI was discussed, but agreement was not achieved. When the licensee PRA is updated, CDE must also be updated to implement the change in the INPO database. Updating requirements for CDE will be a discussion topic at the next monthly ROP working group meeting. Additional guidance issues including FAQs 62.1, 62.2 and engineered safety features (ESF) demands were discussed. These issues will be further discussed during the next meeting.

The staff noted that the Enforcement Guidance Memorandum for MSPI should be issued prior to the end of the month. The MSPI lessons learned were not discussed this meeting. Industry and staff will develop a list to be shared prior to the next meeting where it will be a discussion topic.

The industry Safety Performance Assessment Task Force re-presented FAQ 61.1, "ERO Participation Credit for Security Related Drill or Exercise." Revisions were proposed, and it will be further discussed during the next meeting.

The draft performance indicator (PI) for scrams with complications was discussed. As the basis document is being developed it has become evident that a separate meeting of the working group for this PI is needed to resolve issues. The current areas of discussion are main feedwater availability and emergency operating procedure implementation. As initially defined using 1995 - 2000 data, the draft PI would identify approximately 5% of licensees that have scrams with complications and identify licensees that may be out of norm in challenges to operators.

Management Directive (MD) 8.3 "Incident Investigation Program" was discussed relative to the criteria for creating a special inspection team (SIT) and the criteria for when a press release is issued prior to the start of the inspection. The MD allows discretion by the regions in implementation. This discussion will be continued during the next meeting. Also, the staff agreed to consider whether a press release should be issued upon completion of a SIT if one was issued at the outset.

The staff solicited input on a potential change to guidance contained in Inspection Procedure 71111.21 "Component Design Basis Inspection." A consideration would be to allow industry to perform a self-assessment for the component design basis and the NRC inspection would then review the self-assessment. This contrasts to the current practice of the NRC inspection team performing an independent component design basis inspection every two years. The industry views on the potential change were positive.

The next meeting of the ROP Working Group will be August 16th, 2006. The staff agreed to hold the September ROP meeting on the 14th, in Ft. Worth, Texas. This is the day after the Region IV utility group meeting.

Attachments:

1. Attendance List
2. Agenda
3. FAQ Log, dated 7/19/06, ML062010478
4. Definition for an Actual ESF Demand as used by MSPI, ML062010478

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NAME	MTonacci	JAndersen
DATE	07/28/06	08/09/06

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ATTENDANCE LIST
INDUSTRY/STAFF ROP PUBLIC MEETING
July 19, 2006

	NAME	AFFILIATION
1.	John Butler	NEI
2.	Deann Ralieggh	Scientech
3.	Lenny Sueper	NMC
4.	Fred Mashburn	TVA
5.	Robin Ritzman	FENOC
6.	W.E. Mookhoek	STP
7.	Jim Sumpter	Duke Energy
8.	Greg Halnon	First Energy Nuclear
9.	Don Olson	Dominion
10.	Tim Hope	TXU-Power
11.	Victoria Warren	Exelon/Erin Engineering
12.	Frank Mascitelli	Exelon
13.	Roy Lithicum	Exelon
14.	Mark Reidmeyer	STARS
15.	Rick Thomas	Entergy
16.	Glen Masters	INPO
17.	George Mortensen	INPO
18.	Adam Nielsen	NRC
19.	Brian Smith	NRC
20.	Melanie Galloway	NRC
21.	Bart Fu	NRC
22.	John Thompson	NRC
23.	Mark Tonacci	NRC
24.	Bob Gramm	NRC
25.	See Meng Wong	NRC/NRR/DRA
26.	James Trapp	NRC
27.	Russ Bywater	NRC
28.	Don Dube	NRC
29.	Peter Appignani	NRC

ROP WORKING GROUP PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA

July 19, 2006

9:00 - 4:00 p.m. (O7B4)

Conference Call Line: 800-638-8081; Code: 6426#

- 9:00 - 9:05 a.m. Introduction and Purpose of Meeting
- 9:05 - 10:15 a.m. Discussion of MSPI Implementation and Lessons Learned
- 10:15 - 10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:30 - 11:15 a.m. Discussion of Safety Culture ROP Issues
- 11:15 - 12:00 p.m. Discussion of PI Program Improvements
- 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Reactor Inspection Branch Topics
- 2:30 - 2:45 p.m. Break
- 2:45 - 3:45 p.m. Discussion of Open and New PI Frequently Asked Questions
- 3:45 - 4:00 p.m. Future Meeting Dates and Topics
- 4:00 p.m. Adjourn